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19 October 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Budget Division

SUBJECT:

Budget Hearings

Your office requested information from the Office of General Counsel in answer to questions raised by the Bureau of the Budget in connection with the coming budget hearings.

1. Explain the relationship of the General Counsel to the Legislative Counsel.

The Legislative Counsel is responsible for all liaison with the Congress. This includes not only responding to congressional inquiries, arranging for briefing of Congressmen and congressional committees, but also coordinating and planning whatever legislative program the Agency may require and informing the Agency of legislative developments which may have some impact on its activities. As part of his over-all responsibility for legal matters, the General Counsel is responsible for the legal aspects of legislation and the limison with the Congress. This includes interpretation of existing and proposed legislation, developing requirements for legislation and drafting legislative proposals. The two offices must work very closely as a team but work almost equally well whether they are in the same office or separate offices.

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2. What is the current status of proposed amendments to P. L. 110?

The proposed amendments to P. L. 110 introduced into the Congress in the last session have been reviewed by the interested Agency components in order to bring them up to date. They are now being redrafted by the General Counsel and will be forwarded shortly to the Bureau of the Budget for approval of submission to the Congress. A preliminary meeting of the Legislative Counsel with representatives of the Bureau of the Budget was held on 17 October 1956 to discuss certain of the problems involved.

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LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON General Counsel

cc: Legislative Counsel